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DO YOU UNDERSTAND JUST HOW MEANINGFUL MOVEMBER IS? PAGE 24

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Wednesday, October 29, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

Study ranks NYC transit system safest for women

Exclusive. A new Thomson Reuters Foundation report released today finds that among 16 of the largest city transit systems in the world the Big Apple comes in as tops as the safest for women, and for women feeling secure riding the subway or taking buses late at night. PAGE 02

NBA PREVIEW.

NEW COACHES, SAME OLD PLAYERS PAGES 28-29

Lionel Hollins will be charged with turning around Deron Williams' career in Brooklyn, while Derek Fisher, inset, takes over the Knicks. / GETTY IMAGES

NTSB gives train crash findings

PAGE 04

Days later, CMJ still resonating

PAGES 14-15

Who rocks the best raw in the city?

PAGE 17

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1 NEWS

Meet Metro

Come visit us!

Metro and AdRide Outdoor will be at the New York Business Expo & Conference at Javits Center tomorrow! Come visit us at the Exhibit #522 to hear about Metro AdRide. More details at metro.us/adride

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'Benedict Cumberbatch will play Doctor Strange in the last major movie franchise he wasn't in yet'

2 'Rene Russo likes to stay up late'

3 'Official ESPN SportsCenter Twitter feed pisses off Red Sox fans everywhere'

New York transit system safest for women: Survey

Manhattan. New York's transit system was ranked the safest for women in a new report.

A woman waits for a train at a New York City subway station. / GETTY IMAGES

Twenty-five years ago women were scared to ride on New York's dirty, dimly-lit subway but a Thomson Reuters Foundation survey that came out Wednesday showed the city's public transport now ranks as the safest for women among some of the world's largest cities.

With well-lit subways and buses humming with record numbers of users, New York City was rated as having the safest transport for women compared to 15 of the world's largest capitals.

But although the city was seen as safe to travel at night and authorities fast to crack down on offenses, three out of every 10 women said they had been verbally abused on buses and trains.

Women in New York, however, praised the city's transport.

"I was born and raised in New York City. I've never had any problems riding the subway," said Nicole, 26, who works at a magazine and preferred not to give her last name.

It wasn't always this way.

About 25 years ago, graffiti-covered subway cars became symbols of the city's descent into crime and decay and New York City was widely considered unsafe, particularly for women.

Due to a range of measures, from more aggressive community policing to greater deployment of police, the city began to see a marked reduction in crime in the 1990s that still continues.

The survey of over 6,550 women and gender and city planning experts by pollster YouGov and the Thomson Reuters Foundation found New York was seen as having the safest transport for women, followed by Tokyo and Beijing.

The worst three cities for women were Bogota, Mexico City and Lima, all Latin-American capitals.

New York ranked well when women were asked about their overall perception of safety, about travelling at night, confidence in other passengers coming to their aid if needed and the rate of physical harassment on buses and trains.

But the city didn't fare as well, coming 11th, when women were asked if they had been verbally harassed on transit with 34 percent saying this had happened to them.

THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION

Most dangerous transit systems for women

1 is the worst ranked, 16 is the best

1. Bogota, Colombia
2. Mexico City, Mexico
3. Lima, Peru
4. Delhi, India
5. Jakarta, Indonesia
6. Buenos Aires, Argentina
7. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8. Bangkok, Thailand
9. Moscow, Russia
10. Manila, Philippines
11. Paris, France
12. Seoul, South Korea
13. London, England
14. Beijing, China
15. Tokyo, Japan
16. New York, United States

Source: Thomson Reuters

BILY BECERRA, METRO

Misconceptions

Subway surprises

Lisa Anderson, North America correspondent for the Thomson Reuters Foundation, said people from other places might be surprised to find NYC ranked as the safest for women of the 16 cities studied, because of their misconception that the Big Apple is still crime-ridden.

"A lot of young women I know feel perfectly safe on the subway, even in the wee hours of the morning," she said.

Visit **Metro.us** to read more from the report and from Hollaback!

New York City

Hollaback! says bar is set low

On the same day the report surfaced, NYC-based anti-harassment organization Hollaback! released an unsettling video showing a woman walking the city's streets and getting verbally assaulted 100 times over the course of 10 hours.

The viral video showed an interesting contrast to the claim that New York City is a safe space for women.

"I think the bar is pretty low when it comes to determining safety and public transport around the world," Hollaback's deputy director Debjani Roy told Metro. "Maybe it makes sense that New York City is [the safest], but that doesn't really testify to the prevalence of harassment that we face here on subways and buses."

Harassment

"Maybe it makes sense that New York City is [the safest], but that doesn't really testify to the prevalence of harassment that we face here on subways and buses." Debjani Roy

Think of it as the McATHON

After all, the New York McIntosh is the Official Apple of the TCS New York City Marathon. And it is a 26.2-mile run through the city some call "The Big Apple." So go ahead, if you're running or spectating, take a healthy bite of a just-picked New York McIntosh. It's New York Apple harvest season, so all of your favorite varieties are fresh-picked and filled with fabulous flavor.

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Fatal crash caused by sleep apnea: NTSB

Bronx. A report said that sleep apnea was to blame for the train crash that killed four.

A fatal Bronx train derailment last year was likely caused by the engineer at the controls who fell asleep due to an undiagnosed sleep disorder, the National Transportation Safety Board said on Tuesday.

The commuter train was traveling more than 50 miles per hour faster than the speed limit when it derailed on Dec. 1, the NTSB said.

Four people were killed and at least 61 people were injured in the derailment of the Metro-North Railroad train, it said.

The train crash happened shortly after 7 a.m., on Dec. 1, 2013. Four people were killed. / GETTY IMAGES

The engineer had severe obstructive sleep apnea that had not been diagnosed, the NTSB said.

The engineer's sleep disorder was exacerbated by a change in his work schedule, it said. He had been moved to an early morning shift before the crash.

The engineer, William Rockefeller Jr., told investigators that a "hypnotic" state overcame him before he realized his train was derailing, according to NTSB documents.

A factor in the accident was the loss of glazing that seals the train's windows, which resulted in the fatal ejection of four passengers, the NTSB said. REUTERS

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New York

Citi Bike to double in size

A private investor firm has purchased the company that runs Citi Bike, the bike share program announced Tuesday. As part of the agreement, Citi Bike will double in size by 2017, adding 6,000 additional bikes at more than 375 new stations across the city. The first stations will be added in Williamsburg and Greenpoint.

The average cost of a year membership to Citi Bike will increase to $149 per year. METRO

View from the WTC top

New Yorkers looking for an inspiring view will have another vantage point in Spring 2015, when One World Observatory opens atop One World Trade Center. Positioned on the 100 to 102 floors of the 1,250-foot-tall building, the Observatory will "provide panoramic views of New York City." The exact date for the opening is yet to be determined. / METRO

East Harlem

Mayor thanks EMS workers who carried Ebola patient

Mayor Bill de Blasio visited FDNY EMS Station 10 in East Harlem on Tuesday to thank the EMS workers who took Dr. Craig Spencer, New York's only confirmed Ebola case, to Bellevue Hospital last Thursday.

"There's a courage running through the people who do this work," de Blasio said.

The mayor also said Spencer's condition remains serious but stable. METRO

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11/5

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More *UBUNTU* events at Carnegie Hall:

10/30

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This concert and The Shape of Jazz series are made possible by The Joyce and George Wein Foundation in memory of Joyce Wein.

11/1

Dizu Plaatjies and Ibuyambo

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Artists, programs, and dates subject to change. © 2014 CHC.

Lead funding for *UBUNTU: Music and Arts of South Africa* is provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Ford Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation, and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Additional support is provided by the Mai Family Foundation, South African Tourism, and South African Airways.

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Albany

Cuomo announces moment of silence for Sandy victims

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that a moment of silence for the second anniversary of Superstorm Sandy will take place at 8 p.m. today, roughly around the time that the storm struck the New York coast.

Staten home / GETTY IMAGES

"All across the state, homes and businesses were destroyed by Superstorm Sandy, and 61 people lost their lives," Cuomo said. "As we mark the second anniversary of this horrific storm, let us pause to remember those who were lost, as well as the countless others who were impacted by Sandy."

Cuomo also directed that flags on state government buildings be flown at half-staff throughout the day. Mayor Bill de Blasio recently announced plans to revamp former Mayor Bloomberg's Build It Back Program, expediting the reconstruction of homes and transportation systems affected by Sandy.

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Passion. Australian balances her music dream with day job

You work full-time at a graphic design firm and are in two bands, Crazy Mary and Big Sexy Music. How are you not exhausted at work?
I'm really healthy. I stopped drinking and am really health-conscious about what I eat so I have the maximum energy I can have during the day. Since I'm from Australia, I have to have a visa to work, so I'm not here to hang out, I'm here to accomplish something.

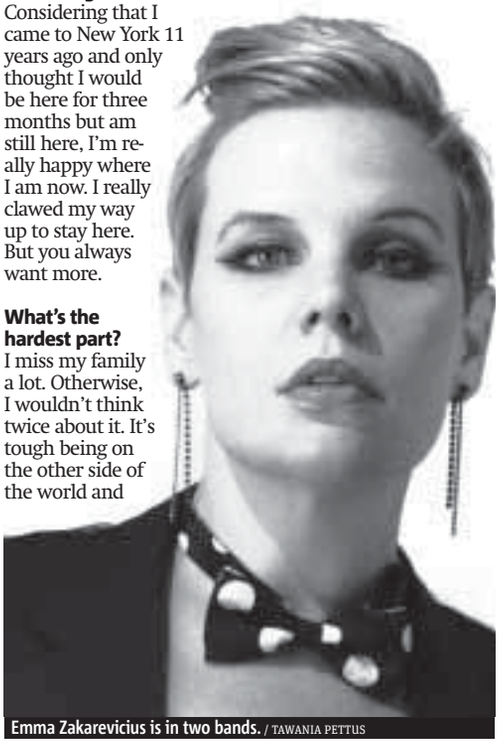
How many nights a week are devoted to music?
About four. I have rehearsals on Mondays, once a week I'm in the studio recording the second album for Big Sexy Music, I have shows one or two nights a week and I'll usually go to another show another night during the week.

Is graphic design a passion of yours or are you working at the firm mostly for the visa?
I'm working for the visa, but the company I work for does really important work for [global] nonprofits.

Are you happy with the way your work life is, or are you hoping anything will change?
Considering that I came to New York 11 years ago and only thought I would be here for three months but am still here, I'm really happy where I am now. I really clawed my way up to stay here. But you always want more.

What's the hardest part?
I miss my family a lot. Otherwise, I wouldn't think twice about it. It's tough being on the other side of the world and you're by yourself. I moved here all alone not knowing a single person, but I loved it. I thought: "Oh my God, I can never leave." Now I think: "Oh, maybe I will leave."

Check out Big Sexy Music at EMZMusic.com.


Emma Zakarevicius is in two bands. / TAWANIA PETTUS

SECOND SHIFT

See creative ways city dwellers make ends meet.

EMILY LAURENCE
Contact us if you have a story to tell: emily.laurence @metro.us

Bio

Emma Zakarevicius

Age: 35
Residency: Westchester, NY
Lives: Alone
Number of jobs: 2

Obama defends US Ebola guidelines, backs American volunteers in Africa

Amber Vinson, a Texas nurse who contracted Ebola after treating an infected patient, hugs members of her nursing team during a press conference after being released from Emory University Hospital. / GETTY IMAGES

Safe troops. The US military has stressed that its personnel are not interacting with Ebola patients.

As the second of two nurses infected while treating an Ebola patient left an Atlanta hospital, President Barack Obama on Tuesday said policies adopted in the United States should not discourage Americans willing to fight West Africa's outbreak.

Obama weighed in for the first time since states including New York and New Jersey imposed automatic 21-day quarantines on doctors and nurses returning from the three countries at the heart of the outbreak — rules that go beyond federal guidelines.

Obama said that these medical workers, often volunteers for international humanitarian groups, should be "applauded, thanked and supported."

"And we can make sure that when they come back, they are being monitored in a prudent fashion. But we want to make sure that we understand that they are doing God's work over there. And they're doing that to keep us safe," Obama added.

The states implementing quarantines have said saying federal policies do not adequately protect the public.

Federal health officials and others have criticized stricter state measures as potentially counterproductive, saying they could deter American doctors and other health care professionals from volunteering to help fight the epidemic at its source in West Africa.

"We don't want to do things that aren't based on science and best practices because if we do then we're just putting another barrier on somebody who's already doing really important work on our behalf," Obama said, noting that containing the outbreak in Africa will make Americans safer from Ebola.

In reference to quarantines being implemented by the military, Obama said service members were in a "different situation" than health care workers. He said troops were sent as part of their mission and could expect such inconveniences. REUTERS

Quoted

"We don't want to discourage our health care workers from going to the frontlines and dealing with this in an effective way." Obama

Ebola-free

Dallas nurse discharged from hospital

A Dallas nurse who contracted Ebola was released from Emory University Hospital in Atlanta on Tuesday after being found free of the virus and thanked God and her family for helping her recover.

"I sincerely believe that with God all things are possible," said nurse Amber Vinson, who looked vibrant at a news conference with the health workers who treated her.

Vinson is the fourth patient successfully treated for Ebola at Emory's hospital. REUTERS

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Apple CEO fires back as retailers block Pay

Response. Cook's comments come after drugstores blocked the mobile payments service.

Tim Cook / GETTY IMAGES

Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook fired back at CVS and Rite Aid on Monday after the drugstore chains blocked the iPhone maker's mobile payments service, saying there were plenty of other retailers around the world to sign up.

Apple Pay launched about a week ago and saw more than a million credit cards registered over the first 72 hours. It already totes up more transactions than all other "contact-less" payment methods combined, Cook said, citing Visa and Mastercard data.

Such services, through which a user pays by holding a smartphone close to a terminal, have failed to catch on in the United States. REUTERS

Quoted

"We've got a lot more merchants to sign up, we've got a lot of banks to sign up and we've got the rest of the world."

Cook told the Wall Street Journal Digital Live conference.

No commercials

YouTube explores paid, ad-free service

YouTube, the popular online video service owned by Google Inc., is planning to offer a paid, ad-free version, the head of the site said.

The move would represent a very significant change for the world's No. 1 online video hosting website, whose free videos, often accompanied by short commercials, attract more than 1 billion users a month. REUTERS

Fall News

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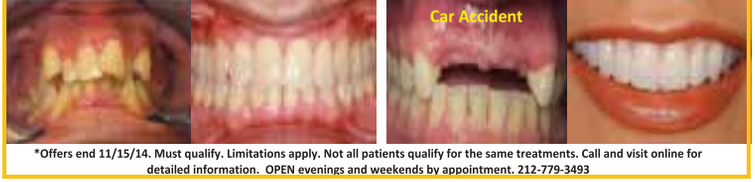

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Bomb suspect pal guilty of lying to feds during probe

Trial. A friend of the accused Boston Marathon bomber now faces 16 years behind bars.

Phillipos leaves the Moakley Federal Courthouse on Tuesday after being found guilty by a jury. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

A jury on Tuesday found a college friend of the accused Boston Marathon bomber guilty of lying to federal investigators probing the deadly attack.

Robel Phillipos, 21, was charged with lying about having visited suspected bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's dorm room at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth three days after the 2013 attack that killed three people and injured more than 260.

Phillipos was present when two friends removed a backpack containing empty fireworks shells from the room.

Phillipos was on trial in Boston for two criminal counts of lying to investigators, one for saying he did not remember the visit and one for denying it. He later signed a written confession admitting to it, following an FBI interrogation.

Defense attorneys argued he was "high out of his mind" on marijuana on the day in question, and therefore did not lie when he told detectives that he could not remember going to the room.

He faces up to 16 years in prison when he is sentenced on Jan. 29. Until then, Phillipos remains under house arrest.

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Today's winner

To enter your submission for the Metro Photo Challenge to win a $5,000 cash prize, go to **www.metrophotochallenge.com.**

'Maryland'

Nancy Oviedo, Revere, Mass.; Category: My City's Magic

Smartphone plans

US sues AT&T over data 'throttling'

The U.S. government filed a lawsuit against AT&T on Tuesday, alleging they sold consumers unlimited data plans but would reduce their Internet speeds once they exceeded a certain amount of data.

The Federal Trade Commission said that this "throttling" of Internet feeds was deceptive and that in some cases data speeds were slowed by nearly 90 percent.

AT&T called the allegations "baseless" and said the practice was to manage the network.

"We have been completely transparent with customers since the very beginning," said Wayne Watts, AT&T's general counsel. "This program has affected only about 3 percent of our customers, and before any customer is affected, they are also notified by text message." **REUTERS**

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Nude walker

Britain's 'Naked Rambler' loses legal battle to reveal all

A British man who has spent seven years in jail for going naked in public lost his legal battle to wear no clothes on Tuesday as Europe's human rights court told him he must respect the feelings of others.

Stephen Gough, dubbed "The Naked Rambler" by British media for his bid to trek the length of the country wearing no more than a hat and bulky rucksack, has faced some 30 convictions for public order disturbances and other offenses.

Gough argued that European laws on respect for private life and freedom of expression gave him the right to nudity whenever he chose it. But the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights ruled that they did not apply given his "deliberately repetitive antisocial conduct."

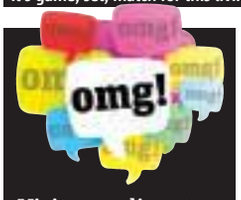
REUTERS

OMG! An indoor tennis court with a 'court-side' couch and fireplace

It's game, set and match for this artist who has created an indoor design tennis court inside an apartment. The unique sporting venue, which features a small-scale net tautly tied across a door frame, artificial grass and, of course, a radiator and fireplace, is designed to have opponents consider 32-year-old Benedetto Bufalino's idea of "art as a game." The Lyon-based artist says of his project in Interface Gallery in Dijon, France, "It's like I've married an apartment to a tennis court."

It's game, set, match for this living room. / BENEDETTO BUFALINO

Why did you start playing tennis in an apartment?
The architecture of my house is divided into two identical areas, exactly like a tennis court, and that's how I got the idea. The apartment also showcases exhibitions and so I found it interesting to play tennis with visitors. It's very funny. Once you cross a doorstep, you're in the field, but not dressed [for] tennis, and that's the contrast. And then you are stuck, because there are other elements such as a fireplace, moldings, walls, doors, radiators. So it makes you think differently about the space.



Visit us online at **Metro.us/omg** for more interviews.

So it's just for fun?
Exactly. You can play with your partner or with the walls, however you like.

So regular tennis is not for you, right?
I like the idea of mixing things together. It's like I've married an apartment to a tennis court. So, regular tennis is not for me.

Didn't your mother tell you it's dangerous to play sports in the house?
No, it's not dangerous; I'm not afraid to break things. I prefer to play and break things than do nothing.

DMITRY BELYAEV,
METRO WORLD NEWS

Maryland

Nanny who stole $431,542 from bosses sentenced to jail

A Maryland nanny who stole $431,542 from her employers to gamble and buy a house in Africa has been sentenced to three years in prison, a prosecutor said.

Kadiatu Sahid Kamara, 50, of Gaithersburg was sentenced on Monday in U.S. District Court in Greenbelt, Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas Windom said in a statement. She pleaded guilty to mail fraud and aggravated identity theft in August.

Kamara had access to checks linked to a married couple's money market account while she was caring for their children, according to prosecutors. She forged signatures on 118 checks between May 2011 and May 2013 and put the money in her bank account. She used it to buy a house in Africa, send money transfers and take trips to a West Virginia casino, prosecutors have said.

Kamara has also agreed to pay back the money. REUTERS

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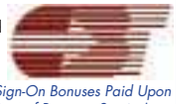

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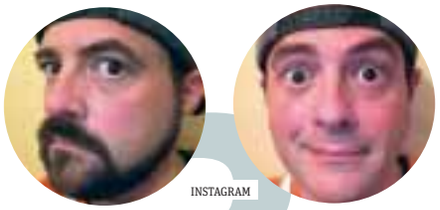
The Taylor Swift and Katy Perry feud heats up

Taylor Swift and Katy Perry appeared to be friendly with each other in 2011, but apparently no more! /GETTY IMAGES

That feud between Taylor Swift and Katy Perry is reportedly so serious that it might cost a prominent tour director some work. Baz Halpin has handled the direction and production design for a number of tours for both Perry and Swift, but now that Perry has been tapped for the next Super Bowl Halftime Show and asked Halpin to join her, Swift is fuming, according to Radar Online. "She got word of Baz agreeing to do the show for Katy, and Taylor has flat-out said she will not hire him ever again for any performance or tour if he goes ahead with his decision," a source says. "Katy got word of Taylor's 'ultimatum' and found it quite amusing."

Meet Kevin Smith, the goofy spaz

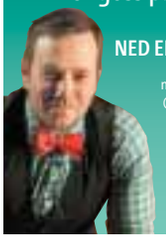


INSTAGRAM

Kevin Smith shaved his beard. I repeat, Kevin Smith shaved his beard! He ditched the iconic facial fur for a shot in his new film, "Yoga Hosers." Now, I'm not suggesting it's news anytime the "Clerks" director does anything hygiene-related, but the results here are pretty astounding. "Look at this goofy spaz," Smith says in the Instagram post revealing the change. Look at him, indeed.

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.



NED EHRBAR
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Don't take advice from this man

I thought it had been a while since we'd had an installment of "Gene Simmons: Quote Machine," but fear not! The KISS frontman is back with a real doozy. He recently popped up on Fox News' "Trending with Andrea Tantaros," and this time he's speaking directly to the ladies in the audience. "Life is not a straight line, and I'm here to say women think differently than men. Men must work for a living. Women have the option of becoming the housewife, which is respectable and wonderful, but what happens when the man runs away?" Simmons opines. "Don't depend on them. Why should you? They don't depend on you for anything. The less you depend on a man for emotional and financial support, the better off you'll be." So let's all stop depending on each other and start making that money! The God of Thunder has spoken!

GETTY IMAGES

Robbie Williams: Hey everyone, check out this very private moment

The tweet that accompanied this photo was: "It's OK, I've totally got this." But do you really, Robbie? / TWITTER

In this weird new Internet age, we live in public — some more than others. Take, for instance, British pop star Robbie Williams, who kept fans and 2.35 million Twitter followers updated on the regular as his wife, Ayda Field, gave birth to their second child earlier this week. He even managed to get video of her water breaking. Fun times! "So it's a quarter past 7, been here since 10 last night and I know you're really concerned and worried and thinking about what's going on," Williams says in one video. "I need you to know I'm doing great." Judging by the photos, he was the only one. But the baby, a boy, did eventually make an appearance, and all is well. "I've never been more in love and I've never been more proud of my wife," Williams said in yet another YouTube update. "She's absolutely astonishing."

Daily video

'Why Bat Nipples Are Awesome'

It is a truth generally accepted that Joel Schumacher's 1997 "Batman and Robin" — George Clooney's lone go-round as the Caped Crusader — is the nadir of the Batman franchise's 75-year history, and nothing has come to symbolize that low point more than the nipples Schumacher for some reason had added to the character's costume. But the folks at Dorkly aren't going to let that stop them from trying to make sense of the superfluous areolas. In their new video, "Why Bat Nipples Are Awesome," they argue that the additions are actually amazing and make Batman that much more threatening. "Nipples on a man serve zero purpose except for sex. They're just an erogenous zone," the video argues, so the addition takes Batman's uniform from the just plain scary to the truly terrifying. "Instead of a bat-creature following you, it's more like a pro-justice, sex predator demon." Watch it at Metro.us!

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Johnny Knoxville knows about fashion, Chloe Grace Moretz is jonesing, Liam Payne should be sleeping, Bette Midler is worried about the children's toys and Jaden Smith is itching to launch a rap career.

@realjknoxville: Sometimes tan leggings aren't a good idea, they're GREAT!!

@ChloeGMoretz: Seriously need a @soulcycle bike to ride when I'm outta town :(missing

@Real_Liam_Payne: How am I awake right now

@BetteMidler: Toys R Us pulled "Breaking Bad" action figures from the shelves. But where will Barbie get the amphetamines to keep her 2-inch waist?

@officialjaden: Dear Everybody Who Can Rap Better Than Me. Please Show Me. Cause I Got 2 Or 3 Albums In Stock Ready. You Just Give Me The Word.

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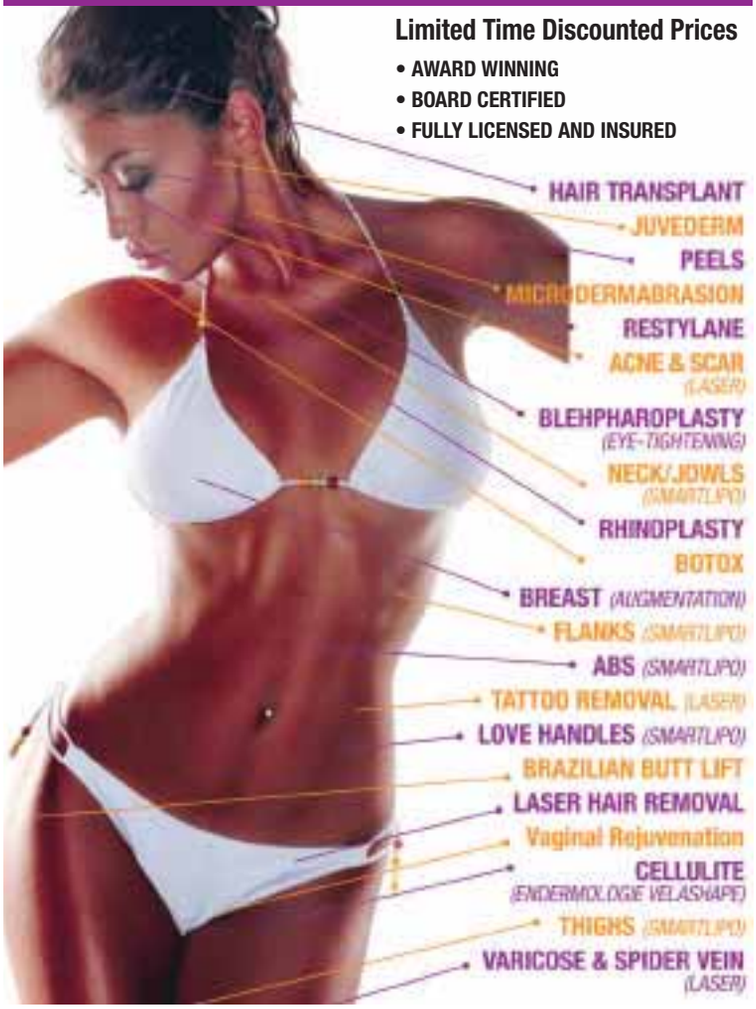

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The sound of silence

CMJ. The joyous album that Ages and Ages are promoting came from a period of deep introspection.

When Tim Perry went into a 10-day meditation retreat, he says he wasn't consciously doing so to formulate all of the material for his band's latest album. But after more than a week without speaking to anybody or being spoken to, the songs that poured out of him formed the bulk of "Divisionary," the second full-length release from Ages and Ages.

On 'The Blacklist'

Where you might have heard them before

Ages and Ages received a welcome boost in sales earlier this month when 6,000 people downloaded their song "Divisionary (Do the Right Thing)" after its effective use on the Season 2 premiere of "The Blacklist."

Quoted

"We've done other shows before, and I've always found it, not embarrassing, but not anything I'd want to hang my hat on," says Perry, "but I was happy with the placement. I think they did a good job. I liked it."

When we speak with Perry, we're outside of a Brooklyn club, where the raised highway above is the best alternative to the music pumping out of the PA inside the club. Perry requests this setting though, because he's fighting a sinus infection and doesn't

Halloween. The Maniac Pumpkin Carvers are in high demand

A fierce yellow glow emanates from a pair of puffy lips, which are slightly open and showcase rows of orange-tinted teeth. On a nearby gourd, Abraham Lincoln's face, furrowed at the brow, glows eerily in the darkness of the Cotton Candy Machine art gallery in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

These delicate illuminations were crafted by the Maniac Pumpkin Carvers. Not all of their creations are hollowed-out Jack-o'-lanterns, either. Some are sculptures; the pumpkins get to keep their pulpy innards while designs are carved into the flesh. Each curve and contour works to make these various characters so lifelike.

Muralists Chris Soria and Marc Evans, along with their team, enjoy a fleeting but high demand for their unusual artistic works from September to November. Soria and Evans say they've loved Halloween since they were children and began carving pumpkins for friends and bringing them to Halloween parties. Over time, word spread, and today, their craft has a large demand each year. Although Halloween is the main attraction, the Maniac Pumpkin Carvers also receive special requests for weddings and birthday parties throughout the fall.

These lips are the work of a Maniac! / MOLLY CONGDON

All pumpkins for events, displays and special occasions are carved within 48 hours of when they're needed. "It's an ephemeral medium," Soria says. "Once you cut into the pumpkins, you are exposing them to oxygen and bacteria, so everything we do must be fresh." They refer to it as a "medium of the moment." Constructing each pumpkin is a race against time.

That's how the name came about: "'Maniac' is an expression of a degree of insanity and lunacy that is required to do what we do," Soria says. "The hours, enthusiasm and things we put ourselves through to create art we are passionate about, which is going to die in a few short days, makes us a little crazy."

MOLLY CONGDON

Perry, left, rocks out with bandmates Rob Oberdorfer and Sarah Riddle at Pianos on Ludlow Street during CMJ. / ALLISON R. STEWART

want to blow out his voice before the band's final show of the CMJ Music Marathon.

"About 99 percent of what we immerse ourselves in is missing the point, so I was just hoping to have some alone time to try to figure it out," he says. "It's really simple. It's almost boringly simple."

But the resultant music is far from boringly simple. Ages and Ages combine soul-searching lyrics with the harmonic exuberance of Fleetwood Mac, the personal vitriol of Elliott Smith and the rich production of The Shins.

The "Divisionary" album begins with a group sing-along statement of purpose, "Light Goes Out," which usually begins the band's shows. The refrain goes, "All I wanna say are the words with any meaning, and I'll be that way till the light goes out."

"I wanted to make a statement about what we do," says Perry, "and it's also battling the idea that discussing death and darkness is not the same as being morbid or negative. It's being honest."

And when the subjects of death and darkness are filtered through the six voices of the band members harmoniously blending together, Perry's reasoning makes sense. There's a contagious joy onstage that spreads to the audience.

"In a world where a lot of negativity exists, and where some of the problems are just downright overwhelming, how do you carry yourself amidst that ... without falling into apathy or just giving up, or just getting depressed?" wonders Perry. "But at the same time without just saying 'f— it. I don't care,' and being maniacally happy about the next Taylor Swift single or whatever?"

PAT HEALY
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Get into the Halloween spirit, then throw back some spirits

For exclusive commentary, visit Metro.us/blogs.

For me, Halloween justifies eating all the candy I want in one day. For a more grown-up activity, nothing will get you more in the mood than the annual Village Parade. When you've finished marching down Sixth Avenue, try some of these places for treats of all kinds.

For Halloween buffs, there's no bigger (or better) event than the Village Halloween Parade. / GETTY IMAGES

Village Parade

(Sixth Avenue from Spring to 16th streets)
On Friday, dress up and join the fun of New York's signature parade. If you want to participate you must be in costume and line up before 8:30 p.m. on Sixth Avenue at Canal Street. It's a fun excuse to dress up and act like a kid — and it's free!

Webster Hall

(125 E. 11th St.)
All 40,000 square feet of the music venue will be transformed in Webster Hell, with acrobats, dancers, DJs and a $5,000 costume contest. This place attracts seriously creative people, so don't expect some fake blood to cut it. Tickets start at $40.

Blind Tiger Ale House

(281 Bleecker St.)
Quench your thirst here after all the parade festivities. They offer 28 rotating craft beer taps and three cask ales. Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. all drafts, wine and prosecco are $1 off. The menu offers something for everyone, including gluten-free options. I like the blistered peppers and the veal meatball sliders, which come three to an order for $10.50.

Thunder Jackson's

(169 Bleecker St.)
Keep the party going with changing daily food specials and $3 beers from 11:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. Definitely visit on Monday nights for 30-cent wings; I also recommend the fries and pigs in a blanket.

John's of Bleecker Street

(278 Bleecker St.)
This is your kid-friendly post-parade spot. The pizza is outstanding, and the atmosphere is loud and festive. John's has one of the few coal-fired brick ovens left in the city. Large pies are $16.50 — no slices.

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The Weekly Yelp. Raw foods

Fire: So overrated. It's hot, helps to set off smoke detectors in your tiny apartment and it's been known to wipe out entire swaths of land in the West. Instead of introducing those variables into your life, why not opt for the raw route? Whether vegan or protein-heavy, we've got the scoop on uncooked culinary delights.

This is the beef carpaccio at L'Artusi that Yelper John D. so fondly writes about. LAURIE W./YELP

L'Artusi

228 W. 10th St., West Village
We started with the beef carpaccio, and you should too. I wouldn't go there and not order this. The raw beef was sliced paper thin and was so tender that it literally melted in my mouth. JOHN D.

Quintessence

263 E. 10th St., East Village
This place could make Ron Swanson a raw vegan. To say it's delicious would be an understatement. This is the Per Se of raw food without the crazy price or guilt after! JACQUI B.

Le Parisien

163 E. 33rd St., Midtown
They present you with a giant slab of perfectly seasoned raw beef with a raw egg yolk on top in its shell alongside a bed of fresh greens. Oh, and they give you a hearty serving of delicious, crispy fries. If you love steak tartare, this entree is your best bet! LESLIE D.

Rockin' Raw

171 Sullivan St., Greenwich Village
Fully Loaded Nachos ($13) with seasoned flax chips fully loaded with seed meat, sour cream, nacho cheese and guacamole! I'm a guacamole addict, so it made me happy to see how generous they were with the guac. WAZ W.

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Q&A JOHN HAWKES ON PIANO

GETTY IMAGES

Interview. The Oscar nominee had to play both a musician and a heroin addict in "Low Down."

John Hawkes didn't know of pianist Joe Albany — one of the few white jazz musicians to play with Charlie Parker, and a heroin addict — until he played him in "Low Down," a portrait of him through the eyes of his daughter, Amy-Jo (Elle Fanning). Turns out even being a musician doesn't make bebop easy to master.

John Hawkes plays bebop pianist Joe Albany in "Low Down," in theaters now. / OSCILLOSCOPE LABORATORIES

As a musician, was the music the main draw for doing this project?
The jazz wasn't what brought me in. It made me nervous more than anything. Because the music, I didn't feel like I had a real handle on. I've always loved Louis Armstrong and Thelonious Monk, but I never really had immersed myself in that. It wasn't the pull, it was the liability — the idea that I could somehow embody a kind of music that isn't naturally in my body. [Bebop] is a different form, one I grew to really love.

How was the transition into doing bebop?
Bebop is a really difficult form of music, to my mind. It's meant to be. It's meant to take jazz back from those who had jumped on the bandwagon. I was reading stories of quartets suddenly dealing with 11 or 12 players hanging out on the stage by the end of a set. People would just jump up uninvited. In a way, bebop separated the wheat from the chaff. I was quite confused and challenged by that form of music. After the movie I went back to the forms of music I love and they all sounded really simple. [Laughs.]

There's been a greater understanding lately that drug addiction can be beyond addicts' control.
The way Amy described it, she felt her father's moods were like the tides at sea. Sometimes it seemed beyond his control. Joe had an incredibly difficult upbringing. ... He'd been diagnosed with a form of schizophrenia early on. The treatments were often brutish and cruel. He ended up in prison early on and was traumatized horribly. That affected him his whole life. I don't really like the idea of people blaming their a—hole behavior on something outside themselves, but for him it seemed to reach beyond drug addition into a form of mental illness.

On Fanning

Elle and him

You spend a lot of screen time acting with Elle Fanning, who always seems both beyond her years and her age.
I'd been an admirer of her work for several years — which is funny to say about someone who was 15 at the time. But it's true. I learn from everybody I work with, and she was no exception. When you come across someone like her, it's almost like age disappears. She's a 15-year-old person I could talk to for hours and not be bored by.

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Q&A
SPIKE LEE SCHOOLS KNICKS FANS

SPIKE LEE'S "WHAT IS THE TRIANGLE OFFENSE" AIRS ON THE MSG NETWORK WEDNESDAY AT 5:30 AND THURSDAY AT 5 P.M.

It seemed inevitable that Spike Lee would team up with the MSG Network for a special about his beloved New York Knicks, "What Is the Triangle Offense?" The special aims to illuminate the teamwork-focused strategy favored by Knicks president Phil Jackson. And courtside mainstay Lee is convinced it's part of what will finally bring the Garden another championship.

Is this actually the first Knicks-centered project that you've done? That seems hard to believe.
I think so. ... I got the call, and they wanted me to do it. I just wanted to do something that had some flavor, I wanted to put humor in it, and at the same time I wanted it to be educational — while also not being boring. It was very simple — try to explain to the loyal Knicks fans in simple terms what we're going to be doing for the next five years.

How do you break that down?
Very carefully. (Laughs.) No, it can be very complicated, so I just try to ask questions that I thought fans might ask, so it was an education for me, too. I'm not an expert, but I had some knowledge of the Triangle offense. I learned a lot more doing this special, like how complicated it is. You know, it's a whole lot of moving parts, it's a mindset. They have to be working for the team, they can't be selfish — all those things make up the Triangle offense.

Do you think folks who aren't diehard fans will be able to comprehend it?
Oh yeah, I think that even if you're not a diehard fan, we still try to make it as simple as possible. ... I think that if you know a little bit about basketball, you'll get it.

Does Lee have the strategy to net the Knicks another championship?
ALL PHOTOS BY AVI GERVER/MSG PHOTO SERVICES

You've been going to games at the Garden for a long time.
Mm-hmm. Since 1967.

Do you have a favorite lineup?
Oh, my favorite is Willis Reed center, Dave DeBusschere and Bill Bradley forwards and Walt Frazier and Dick Barnett at guards. That's the '69-'70 team that won the first Knicks championship.

How do you feel about the current lineup?
I'm very excited, very optimistic about this season. We're going to be good. I was elated that Mr. Dolan made the move to bring Phil Jackson here, I'm elated with the move that Jackson made for Derek Fisher, elated with the move that Carmelo decided to stay here for five years. So we're starting to put the pieces in place, and I expect a championship here within the next five years, which is the five years that Phil Jackson signed for.

A lot of different cities try to lay claim to Phil Jackson, but do you think his legacy is with the Knicks?
Oh yeah, there's no question. Even when he was winning all those rings in Chicago and L.A., we always knew that he's one of our guys. I mean, he got his first two rings with the Knicks.

Tagline

Would you say you're the New York equivalent of Jack Nicholson at the Lakers?
I hear that, but look, I'm a big fan of Jack. We both enjoy the game, we're both very fortunate to have the seats that we sit in. You're up front. You get the sweat and you get to hear the players talk and the referees. ... It's intense.

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Keep handy

Essential instrument

The one thing every woman should have in her tool belt, according to Finan, is a cordless drill. "Every girl ever born should just come with a cordless drill," she says. "It's that critical." She loves them because they're small and lightweight and get just about any job done. "You can hang pictures, put in shelves — sky's the limit," says Finan. "It's great for any project, and you can find one for $100 or less."

RON CHAPPLE STUDIOS

Design a kitchen you love

Advice. Camille Finan says that women need contemporary cabinets and a cordless drill.

Does your kitchen need an update, but you're not sure where to start? For every woman who has ever felt daunted by kitchen renovations, here's your knight in shinning armor: cabinet maker Camille Finan's new book, "Kitchen Love Story." Finan, who owns her own kitchen remodeling company, wrote the tome to help women navigate the usually torturous process of kitchen alterations. "I've been in the industry for quite a while and all of my colleagues are men," explains Finan. "They have a very different way of approaching kitchen design." From hiring the right contractor to staying within budget, she give us advice from the female perspective.

Drawers make a difference

For the perfect kitchen remodel, the most revolutionary adjustment is how you handle your base cabinets. Put in base cabinets with drawers instead of doors, stresses Finan. "It's the single biggest change that will make the most dramatic impact in your kitchen," she says. Wouldn't it be nice to just look down instead of digging in the back corner trying to find what you need?

The bigger, the better

Bigger handles on your cabinets are more accessible and just plain easier

Tip

Corral your seasonings

Instead of having your garlic powder, tarragon and nutmeg haphazardly placed in a cabinet, invest in a spice insert drawer. "It allows spices to lay in a drawer horizontally, and you can see them all," Finan says. "Plus, it frees up your upper cabinets for cups, glasses and cereal bowls — which is really what they are made for."

We're really loving white cabinets and tiles for the kitchen. / PHOTOS.COM

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than tiny ones, explains Finan. She almost always uses a pull 6 inches or larger.

Bare essentials

"People keep things they don't use very often right next to stuff they use every day to make their grilled cheese or scrambled eggs," says Finan. "Take out things like Christmas plates and store them somewhere else."

MOLLY CONGDON
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Survey says:

Time to stock up on candy

Apartments.com released the results of a survey asking 1,200 renters across the country what they're doing for Halloween. The verdict? Probably handing out some chocolate candy: Forty-one percent said they were planning to have candy at the ready for trick-or-treaters, and of those people, 73 percent said they were going to hand out chocolate candy. Fifty-eight percent of people handing out food wisely said they'd planned to get candy they would want to finish off themselves after the holiday. We say smart move.

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Market watch

Priciest

$40M

165 Charles St. #PH
The most expensive property to hit the market this week is a condo in the West Village. Co-marketed by Brown Harris Stevens, this iconic two-story property, designed by Richard Meier, features

a dramatic great room with 21-foot ceilings and floor-to-ceilings windows that offer unobstructed panoramic views. The unit also includes a private 1,800-square-foot terrace.

Cheapest

$299K

330 E. 70th St. #4C
The least expensive property is a co-op in Lenox Hill. Marketed by Nestseekers, this alcove studio boasts a large foyer, a dining area, a separate kitchen, a windowed bath and excellent closet space.

StreetEasy.com is a New York based Real Estate information portal that aggregates the most comprehensive set of sale and rental listings along with other useful info.

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Don't buy one home, buy three

Investors are putting their eggs in a few baskets. / WAVEBREAK MEDIA

Real estate. A growing number of wealthy NYC buyers are acquiring multiple smaller units, bucking the trend toward large trophy apartments.

Investors with $10 million to $15 million to spend have no shortage of New York City real estate to choose from. As of the middle of last month, there were 218 apartments listed in Manhattan in that price range, according to the real estate website StreetEasy.

But a growing number of well-heeled buyers are spreading their wealth among several apartments, instead of buying a single trophy unit, according to brokers. Those brokers said that some investors are taking advantage of the city's strong real estate market, while at the same time hedging against any future softening.

For example, Blu Realty Group's CEO Alon Chadad said he recently represented a client with $40 million to spend. Within a week, the client — who was visiting from China — dropped more than $20 million on several properties, including a three-bedroom apartment in Midtown ($4 million), two retail condos ($5 million each) and a four-bedroom unit on the Upper West Side ($8 million) that the client plans to use personally.

"They're coming in to spend that much money," said Chadad, who has another client from Israel looking to spend $15 million on multiple one-bedroom units or retail condos.

Jacky Teplitzky, a top broker at Douglas Elliman, said owning a trophy apartment can be a good investment when the market is strong, but in recent months she's advised her investor clients — those looking to rent out units — to mix up their holdings, because the inventory of large luxury units is poised to grow.

"I say to them, 'Maybe you should divide the risk. Think about not putting all your eggs in one basket,'" she said. "You have more people that can afford $7,000 a month than $25,000 a month."

E.B. SOLOMONT

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Here are stills from our own Hyperlapse video. Visit www.metro.us to view it. / METRO

Hyperlapse

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Platform(s): iOS

In 1982, monk-turned-filmmaker Godfrey Reggio wowed moviegoers with "Koyaanisqatsi," a maximalist art film whose centerpiece was a 15-minute block of time-lapse photography — a camera trick that made various parts of urban life look like it was in fast-forward. It was a laborious and impressive undertaking.

And as with most things wondrous, now you can do it with ease on your smartphone, for free.

The new app Hyperlapse was created by the makers of Instagram, which has already rendered professional photographers obsolete by giving everyone an army of photo-improving filters. With Hyperlapse, you don't have to do anything but aim your camera at a thing you want to time-lapse — a setting sun, you zig-zagging down the street, a cat doing something catlike — tap the screen once, then tap it again when you're done.

You don't even have to keep your hand completely still — there's an automatic digital stabilizer built in.

Is this evil, or an offense to professionals? Yes.

Is it cool anyway? Yes, that, too. Some of the guilt of normalizing a trick so spectacular — if, it should be noted, long overused, thanks to commercials and endless copycats — is lessened by the app's time limitations.

Hyperlapse only allows for just over five minutes of shooting, which boils down to about 50 seconds of video. Meanwhile, Instagram only allows shared videos to run 15 seconds.

And despite being an offshoot of the social media app, Hyperlapse isn't social.

If you want to post and communicate with others, you'll still have to head over to Instagram.

But hey, you've still made a film. Put that masterpiece on YouTube.

APP APPEAL
MATT PRIGGE
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To the past

A brief history of time-lapse

The details of time-lapse photography are simple: All you're doing is shooting fewer frames than normal. If 30 frames constitute a second, only one of those is captured. Indeed, the technique has been around almost as long as cinema. Georges Meilies used it in his 1897 "Carrefour de l'Opera." It was a fixture of avant-garde films and used in movies such as "A Clockwork Orange."

Alternatives

Sorry, Android

If you're on Android and really want in on this game, you can find non-Instagram alternatives. The best of these is the elegant Framelapse, which also allows users to do things such as use white balance to really bring out the colors. You can also go with Lapse It or Overlapse.

On your shopping radar. & Other Stories

Move over Zara and Aritzia — there's a new store to hit up on your next SoHo shopping spree. / PROVIDED

What's up with the hordes around Prince and Broadway? H&M's sister brand, & Other Stories, which launched in Europe in March 2013, opened its first U.S. store last week on 575 Broadway.

Here's why you should battle your way inside: Besides the chic European sensibility that comes from having ateliers in Paris and Stockholm, what makes the brand so unique, explains Anna Teurnell, head of design, is the mix of styles it offers. This includes "everything from tailored innovative pieces and quirky bohemian-inspired styles to flattering feminine silhouettes and rougher elements, for that effortless look," she says.

& Other Stories' women's ready-to-wear, accessories and beauty items are priced higher than H&M but lower than COS, the Swedish retail giant's other (much-anticipated) spinoff brand set to open its doors in December. Prices range from $9 for nail polish to a $495 mohair coat.

Prefer to do your damage online? The brand's new e-commerce site, Stories.com, is open for business as well.

TINA CHADHA

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Beauty

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Located in Butterfly Studio Salon (owner Kattia Solano is a fan of the treatment), BeautyRx's Peel Bar allows customers to receive the professional strength glycolic skin fix — the same exact peel Schultz performs in his practice — in a matter of minutes.

A member of Schultz's team cleanses your face and then applies the peel, which gently dissolves dead skin, and two minutes later wipes it away with water-soaked cotton pads. And viola, you're done.

The best part? While the treatment costs $225 in the doctor's Upper East Side practice, it's just $39 in the downtown studio.

With such a great deal on your monthly peel, your only dilemma will be if you have time for a Butterfly blowout, too. **TC**

BeautyRx's Peel Bar is open 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and from noon to 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

Butterfly Studio Salon is located at 149 Fifth Ave. / PROVIDED

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Movember reign

Movember. Support men's health with a monthlong mustache.

As far as lifestyle changes go, committing to a mustache is not huge. But Mark Hedstrom hopes that it can grow — pun intended — into something major.

Hedstrom heads up the U.S. Movember campaign, which began in Australia 11 years ago over a conversation about fashion trends between two friends who "challenged each other to grow mustaches and were quite surprised by the conversations that they started." Movember now spans 21 countries and has raised $550 million for men's health initiatives.

Though it never resurfaced after the early '90s in pop culture, facial hair has been on the rise as a niche fashion trend in recent years, with Brooklyn's hipsters forging the path to redeeming the often sketchy reputation of beards and mustaches. Though they sport facial hair year-round, Hedstrom says they actually embody this year's Movember campaign.

Mark Hedstrom says his mustache starts looking good around Day 28. / PROVIDED

"The theme this year is 'Made in Movember,' this idea of acting in a local environment but thinking globally. So when you look at these guys in Brooklyn and Seattle who have beards, mustaches, facial hair, it all comes from this idea of reconnecting with the community," he said.

Ladies, whether wives, girlfriends, sisters and mothers, can get involved as Mo Sistas. After all, they're usually the ones making a difference in men's health. "Oftentimes, women are the ones who are much more comfortable talking about both physical and mental health issues," such as family history of cancer and mental health problems.

Hedstrom, 41, is still honing his game plan for this year's Movember. He typically doesn't have facial hair, which his wife prefers, but for one month they become Team 'Stache.

"She helps me pick out my mustache," he said. They also collaborate on a costume (the Mario Brothers made an appearance one year) for Movember's gala at the end of the month. "For me, Day 28 is when it starts looking good."

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Live better

1 Start talking
In his experience with friends dealing with depression and anxiety, Hedstrom said pushing them to get help is vital, but so is simply being available to talk with them when smaller things happen.

2 Get educated
Face the risks and know what you can do to minimize yours.

3 End the stigma
Whether it's a friend, family member or doctor, they can all help in their own ways. But first, men must recognize the validity of emotional issues and learn the necessary coping mechanisms.

Three famous mustaches

Tim Lincecum

Every sport has its fashions and superstitions, but perhaps nowhere else do those two combine for memorable experiments in facial hair than baseball. Most recently, 30-year-old San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum has experimented with various facial hair styles since a series of lackluster seasons after winning a Cy Young Award in 2009, but it was a mustache that saw him pitch a second no-hitter in less than a year in June. It may not be a robust mustache, but it's got it where it counts.

Tom Selleck

He's the beacon of hope for any man whose decision to grow the facial accessory has been called into doubt. His 'stache made its debut on "Magnum, P.I.," and Selleck hasn't been without it since – CBS balked when he suggested shaving it off to play a police commissioner on "Blue Bloods." Esquire magazine estimated that it would take five months to grow a similar one – good luck.

John Watson

Trying to move on from a traumatic event often involves a major change: moving, changing jobs or buying new clothes. For Sherlock Holmes' partner on the BBC's "Sherlock," it meant growing what became known as a "mournstache" after the detective faked his death in the series 2 finale. Not that Watson would admit his 'stache in any way represented his feelings – when quizzed by his fiancee about why he was shaving it off after Holmes returned and made insulting it his first order of business, he declared, "I don't shave for Sherlock Holmes." Yes, you can get that on a T-shirt.

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Columbia University scientists have a treat for chocolate lovers, announcing a new study that found flavanols, an antioxidant in cocoa, can sharpen your memory even after natural age-related decline has begun.

Memory actually begins to degrade in early adulthood, but it doesn't begin to impact daily life until after age 50 or later. Previous research has linked changes in a part of the brain called the dentate gyrus with memory issues, but this study strengthened that link, implicating these changes as the cause of memory problems, not merely an effect of them.

This research, which will be published in the journal Nature Neuroscience, also for the first time provided evidence that these changes can be reversed through diet.

For the study, 37 participants between ages 50 and 69 drank a cocoa flavonol-enhanced beverage that had been created specifically for the experiment. The drink was developed by Mars, Incorporated; ironically, flavanols tend to be lost during most modern methods of cocoa processing, the study noted.

The participants were assigned either to a flavanol-rich (900mg) or low-flavanol (10mg) diet for three months. Those getting the super dose were shown to have greater circulation in the dentate gyrus and performed significantly better on a 20-minute pattern-recognition exercise to test memory.

"If a participant had the memory of a typical 60-year-old at the beginning of the study, after three months that person on average had the memory of a typical 30- or 40-year-old," said senior author Dr. Scott A. Small, director of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at Columbia.

The team plans to repeat the study with a larger group.

If you're not looking to add a chocolate bar to your daily diet, exercise has been proven to boost both memory and dentate gyrus function.

Chocolate is a proven brain food. / GETTY IMAGES

Cocoa's benefits

Previous studies have shown the flavanols in cocoa boost health in several ways:

- Improved thinking
- Decreased appetite
- Lower blood pressure
- Kept weight down in a high-fat diet
- Improved glucose tolerance

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Horoscope

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Friends will question what you are trying to do. Your impulsive nature will attract attention.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. It's vital that you keep meticulous records of your expenditures. You work hard, but money has a way of slipping through your fingers.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. You will have to decide whether a romantic relationship has become too one-sided. If you do not share the same depth of feeling, a talk is in order.

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Trust your intuition if something doesn't feel right, and make the necessary alterations. Use discretion.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. An unusual creative project will take you in a new direction. You'll make new acquaintances and discover abilities.

Aries | March 21-April 20. Find a quiet corner where you can reflect on your personal lifes. Soul-searching will give you a better understanding of your motivations.

Taurus | April 21-May 21. New friendships will develop if you mingle. Attend events that bring you into contact with those who share your passions.

Gemini | May 22-June 20. Make sure you understand what's included and what isn't. It's up to you to be diligent and to ask questions before you sign.

Cancer | June 21-July 22. You may be feeling anxious or temperamental. You won't be helping anyone if you fly off the handle. Keep your opinions to yourself for now.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Things will improve if you work alone. You will accomplish more without distractions. Eliminate jobs that have been put on hold for too long.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Take advantage of your high energy to accomplish your goals and open up time to do things you enjoy.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You will face ups and downs regarding family matters. Listen to complaints and work to rectify the problems. EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

5			2	8	6		9	
4			7			6		
	6						3	
9		5						1
6	3			5			8	9
1						2		6
	4						1	
		8			9			3
	5		6	7	1			2

	2				5	6		
				4				1
3			8			2	9	
					7		5	6
4		7	1		3	9		8
2	6		9					
	9	2			1			5
5				7				
		1	5				3	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Poehler book worth a read

Re: '3 things Amy Poehler gets real about in "Yes Please"' (Metro, Oct. 28)
I just love Amy Poehler. I will definitely read her book. Reading an experienced, mature and realistic account that is funny can add a lot of wisdom and laughter in our lives.
NIALEE, VIA EMAIL

Trade has good effect on world

Through trade, the U.S. makes and keeps ties with various nations around the world. Worldwide, the standard of living has been improving in countries large and small. The conditions are not perfect, but they are getting better over time. In terms of business, throughout the world there is a balance that provides U.S. corporations and companies with opportunities. When U.S. prices are up, construction and technical projects get put on hold, while some other world locations have lower prices, construction and technical projects get thrown into action and vice versa. Investments work very much in the same fashion. When Asia or Europe is down, the U.S. is up, and when the U.S. is down, the other markets are up. World trade overall has a positive effect on the world economies, and in turn on our great nation.
ANDREW FEINSTEIN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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Crossword

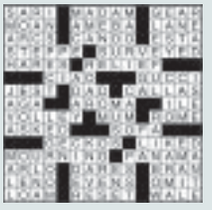
Across

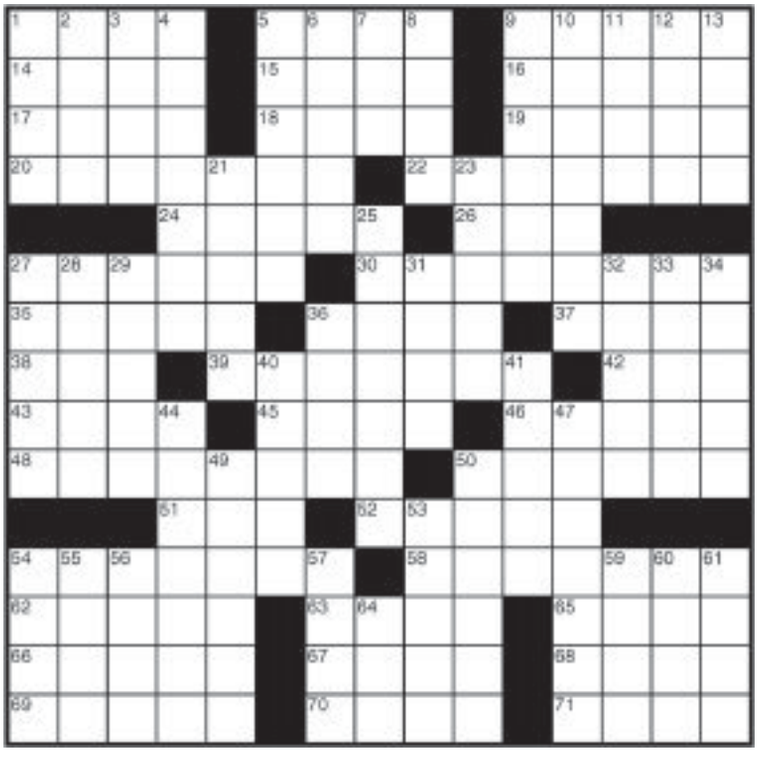
1 Large fishhook
5 Gangplank
9 Tournament of yore
14 Jai —
15 Brink
16 Shin neighbor
17 Valhalla honcho
18 Play charades
19 Bierstube order
20 Town in oaters
22 Not just snacks
24 Costume
26 Debussy subject
27 Reeks
30 Imputes
35 Kind of gun
36 Levee
37 Vaccine type
38 Flair for music
39 Floppy-eared pooch
42 Take advantage of
43 Love, to Picasso
45 RBI raisers
46 Added brandy
48 Hydrant hookup
50 Rolls with holes
51 Favorite —
52 Serious theater
54 Prairie howlers
58 Solo
62 Out of the cocoon
63 Beat the rap
65 Smoked salmon
66 Fill the bill
67 Nautical position
68 Foul mood
69 Late summer flower
70 Ptarmigan
71 It may be tall

Down

1 London hoosegow
2 "Hawkeye" Pierce
3 Carnival
4 Wheedle
5 Pays by mail
6 Farewell
7 Movie studio
8 Look searchingly
9 Reddish mineral
10 Smallest Great Lake
11 Luau strings
12 Gill opening
13 Wallet stuffers
21 Canasta combos
23 Game-show host
25 Put a coat on
27 Grain bundle
28 Florida port
29 Goof
31 Snowshoes alternative
32 Lee or Willis
33 Canvas support
34 Iditarod vehicles
36 Rostrum
40 Stay in touch
41 Altiplano ruminant
44 Willpower
47 Opposed
49 More sultry
50 — on (relied)
53 It inches along
54 Juan's house
55 Lyric poems
56 Mongol dwelling
57 Q-Tip
59 Portuguese lady
60 Fiendish
61 Sticky fruit
64 "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee" boxer

Yesterday's answer





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3 SPORTS

Feeling good

Garnett has new 'edge'

As Kevin Garnett enters his 20th season in the NBA he does so without Paul Pierce as a teammate for the first time since 2007. But the power forward is ready to leave behind a disappointing first season in Brooklyn after plenty of offseason retirement speculation. "I have a little bit of an edge to me this year," Garnett said. "I'll say that. I didn't like how I ended last year, or how I even started last year." Garnett is just the fourth player in NBA history to play 20 seasons, joining Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Robert Parish and Kevin Willis.

Nets get new leader, goals still the same

Nets season preview. Lionel Hollins has replaced Jason Kidd, but health will still be the key in 2014-15.

Lionel Hollins was fired by the Grizzlies despite reaching the Western Conference finals. / GETTY IMAGES

When the Nets gave their first interviews last year before heading to training camp, there was talk of championship dreams with the additions of Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett. Quickly, the word "championship" was dropped and replaced by "it's a process" as the Nets lost 21 of their first 31 games.

Brooklyn eventually came together enough to advance to the second round of the playoffs, before falling well short against the Heat.

But instead of entering Year 2 with Pierce and head coach Jason Kidd, the Nets have a lower payroll — after allowing Pierce to sign with Washington — and a new coach — Lionel Hollins — after allowing Kidd to go to Milwaukee following a failed power play for general manager Billy King's job in June.

"We feel like we have a chance to win," point guard Deron Williams said. "As long as we believe that, that's all that matters. Whatever the predictions are, whatever you guys are saying in the papers, all that doesn't matter as long as we believe we can compete with anybody."

The results will likely depend on the health of Williams and center Brook Lopez.

Lopez is just 26 years old, but is coming off a fourth foot surgery while Williams is no longer in the conversation about top 5 point guards and had surgeries on both ankles. Already, Lopez is doubtful for the opener due to a foot injury.

The news is better for Williams, who missed 18 games last season and averaged a career-low 14.3 points per game. The feeling this year is in stark contrast to last camp when he showed up in a walking boot.

"He looks pretty good," said newcomer Jarrett Jack, Williams' backup. "Not pretty good, he looks damn good. It doesn't seem to be bothering him at all. I don't know how many dunks we'll see from him this season but other than that, he's done a good job."

LARRY FLEISHER
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sports@metro.us

Developing star

Plumlee takes center stage during summer

Mason Plumlee experienced life in the NBA limelight last March during a month of starts at center for the injured Kevin Garnett.

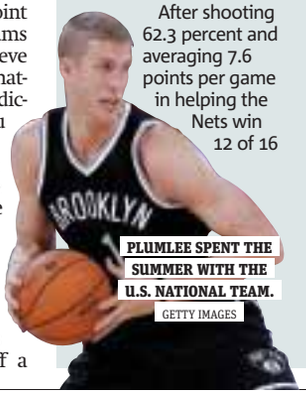
After shooting 62.3 percent and averaging 7.6 points per game in helping the Nets win 12 of 16 games last March, Plumlee earned a spot on the FIBA World Cup gold medal-winning U.S. national team. As he enters his second season, he wants to do more than make layups and dunks.

"They leave me open from 15 feet and in, I'm taking the shot," Plumlee said. "Preseason, I didn't get many, but they'll be there. A lot of that, too, is figuring out the offense, and when to find guys, what guys are looking for. They'll be there."

His head coach, Lionel Hollins, is just excited to have a post player with tremendous potential.

"There's nothing wrong with throwing the ball in the post and scoring," Hollins said.

LARRY FLEISHER



PLUMLEE SPENT THE SUMMER WITH THE U.S. NATIONAL TEAM. GETTY IMAGES

Coming to America

BOJAN BOGDANOVIC GETTY IMAGES

Expectations high for Euro Bogdanovic

He may not be the most important, but perhaps the most intriguing component of the Nets' opening-night lineup will be rookie Bojan Bogdanovic.

Bogdanovic is an NBA rookie but hardly a professional rookie. Before signing with the Nets over the summer he spent a decade playing overseas, averaging 12 points and shooting 45.9 percent in Euroleague games since 2007.

"Bogie's done well," said reserve guard Jarrett Jack. "Coming in and transitioning to that shooting guard spot is a new thing. He's done a good job as far as spacing the floor for guys like Deron and Brook, as well as Joe, allowing them to be put in one-on-one situations. And he also shoots the ball so well."

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By the numbers

15

Bogdanovic will become the first Nets rookie to start an opener in 15 years (Kenyon Martin, Stephen Jackson).

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Fisher hoping to give Knicks new toughness

Knicks season preview. New York struggled to a 37-45 record, and sat on the sidelines during the 2014 playoffs.

The Knicks begin their new era Wednesday night with arguably as many questions as answers.

And of all the questions, right at the top is how new head coach Derek Fisher can change the culture of a Knicks team that has undergone a roster facelift in hopes of making them a tougher outfit.

Fisher reasoned a brutal two-game stretch to start the season featuring matchups with the Bulls and Cavaliers makes it imperative that the starters jell and mold themselves in the form of their tough-as-nails coach.

"We're pretty close," said Fisher when asked if he's settling on a regular rotation, if not starting lineup. "We're still identifying a specific group of guys that work best together, but I think it's safe to say we're close to nailing it down. … The recent workouts, I think, have gotten guys more comfortable with each other and defining roles."

All-Star forward Carmelo Anthony, fresh off re-signing during the offseason, already knows his role as the only true superstar on the roster. And while his contribution will still be mainly as a scorer, he's aware of the expansion his game must undergo in the new Triangle offense — and is also cognizant of how the team still needs to grow together as a whole.

"We're confident heading in, but we also know it's a work in progress," said Anthony, following the team's final preseason practice before the opener. "But at the same time, we have a chance to create something here and we're excited about it."

Anthony is ready to come out of the gate firing, even if the team is an acknowledged work in progress. Facing Derrick Rose and LeBron James will at least be an early measuring stick.

"We're competitive, so we want those games, want those challenges," Anthony said. "As a player and athlete you should want those moments [and] embrace those moments."

TONY WILLIAMS
@TBone8
sports@metro.us

Derek Fisher played 18 seasons in the NBA, but retired at the end of 2013-14 to take over the head coaching job under new team president Phil Jackson. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"We'll be open to putting five guys out there to play against the Chicago Bulls and go from there."

Knicks head coach Derek FIsher, already showing his humor when asked Tuesday about whether he'd settled on a starting five

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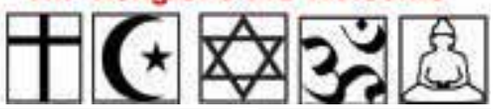

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1281781 for On-premise Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 25-30 Broadway, Astoria, NY 11106 for on-premise consumption. Ocean Sky LLC.

Notice of Formation of 6712 Management LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on October 1, 2014. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: C/O The LLC, 6712 21st Ave Brooklyn, NY 11204 which is also the principal business location.

Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition for PPF Holdings LLC. to continue to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café 89 MacDougal Street in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of four years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition for Kazo Inc. to continue to maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 300 ½ E. 52nd Street. in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of four years.

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